Fast Track Courts

†*350. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute more Fast Track Courts for the speedy disposal of cases; and

(b) the number of pending cases disposed of by Fast Track Courts in Rajasthan during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Government has extended the scheme of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) (at sessions level) in respect of 1562 FTCs in the country for a period of five years beyond 31.3.2005. There is no proposal, at present, with the Government for constituting more FTCs. However, the Supreme Court of India is monitoring the functioning of FTCs in the Transfer Case 22/ 2001 (Brij Mohan Lal Vs UOI) and in its Order dated 21.11.2005 has directed the High Courts and State Governments to furnish affidavits to know as to how many FTCs are required to be continued having regard to the pendency. The matter is, therefore, sub judice.

(b) As per information furnished by the Rajasthan High Court, the Fast Track Courts in Rajasthan have disposed 9693,12,234 and 16720 cases in 2003,2004 and 2005 respectively.

New Rehabilitation Policy for Adivasis

†*351. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of TRIBALAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to introduce soon a new rehabilitation policy to protect the interests and culture of adivasis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBALAFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) There is a "National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Families (PAFs) 2003" already existing which is applicable to both tribais and non-tribals. The Policy contains certain additional benefits

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

benefits for tribals over and above the provisions which apply to others, and inter-alia provides for rehabilitation of tribal PAFs close to their natural habitat in a compact block so that they can retain their ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity. There is no proposal to introduce soon a new rehabilitation policy exclusively to protect the interests and culture of adivasis. However, the draft National Tribal Policy suggests measures for further protecting the interests of tribal families affected by development projects and for their resettlement and rehabilitation.

Disparity in retirement age of university teachers

*352 SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in our country, the retirement age of university teachers has been enhanced to 62 years and in some universities to 65 years whereas in some universities it is 60 years only;

(b) what is the rationale of this variation;

(c) whether his Ministry intends to bring uniformity in service conditions and retirement age of university teachers;

(d) why there is not a single Central University in the entire Jammu & Kashmir State whereas there are many in North-Eastern States; and

(e) whether Government have any plan to convert the university of Jammu into a Central University?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the University Grants Commission (UGC) Notification on 'Revision of Pay Scales' Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers in Universities & Colleges and Other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards, 1998', the retirement age of university teachers is 62 years. However, it is open to a University or a college, depending on its requirements, to re-employ a superannuated teachers, upto the age of 65 years under the existing guidelines framed by the UGC. This applies to all universities and institutions under Section 2 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 as well as to every institution declared as an Institution Deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the said Act.